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Message Text

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S/S - MR. MOFFAT
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TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
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SUBJECT: COORDINATION OF NUCLEAR EXPORTS
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1. DONOWAKI OF JAPANESE EMBASSY TOLD ACDA DEPUTY DIRECTOR NOVEMBER 9 THAT GOJ HAD FOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT PROPOSED NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS CONFERENCE WHICH IT WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ANSWERED BEFORE GIVING REACTION TO US PROPOSAL;

A. WHAT IS RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ZANGGER COMMITTEE AND TIS PROPOSAL?

B. WHAT IS RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN NPT AND NEW PROPOSAL? MIGHT NEW PROPOSAL NOT UNDERMINE NPT? JAPAN THINKS IT DESIRABLE TO STRENGTHEN NPT.

C. WHAT IS PROSPECT FOR PARTICIPATION FRANCE (WHICH IS AGAINST NPT) AND EVENTUALLY OF INDIA? IF THESE TWO DO NOT PARTICIPATE THEN CONTROLS WILL BE LESS EFFECTIVE.

D. PREVENTION OF PROLIFERATION WILL BE TOPIC FOR NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE NEXT MAY. WHAT IS RELATIONSHIP OF THIS PROPOSAL TO NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE?
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2. ZURHELLEN GAVE FOLLOWING ANSWERS:

A. ZANGGER COMMITTEE UNFORTUNATELY DOES NOT INCLUDE ALL NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS. WHILE RESULT OF THAT COMMITTEE HIGHLY IMPORTANT, IT IS ALSO NECESSARY TO FIND WAY OF BRINGING NON-PARTICIPANTS INTO NUCLEAR SUPPLY CONTROL SYSTEM.

B. THERE IS NO SPECIFIC RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN NPT AND SUPPLIERS CONFERENCE PROPOSAL. NPT REMAINS HIGHLY IMPORTANT PART OF INTERNATIONAL NON-PROLIFERATION SCHEME BUT, AS WITH ZANGGER COMMITTEE, THERE ARE UNFORTUNATELY NUCLEAR SUPPLIER STATES WHICH ARE NOT PARTIES TO NPT, SOME WHO ARE PROSPECTIVE PARTIES, LIKE JAPAN, BUT OTHERS WHO HAVE DECLARED INTENT NOT TO ADHERE TO NPT. OUR PROPOSAL IS WAY OF BRINGING SUCH NPT NON-PARTIES INTO CONTROL SCHEME. WE CERTAINLY AGREE IT IS IMPORTANT TO STRENGTHEN NPT AND WILL ALSO BE WORKING TOWARDS THAT END.

C. AS DONOWAKI WAS TOLD IN OUR INITIAL APPROACH, SIMILAR APPROACH ON SUPPLIERS CONFERENCE HAD BEEN MADE TO FRANCE. THERE HAS NOT YET BEEN A REACTION FROM THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT. HOWEVER, BEFORE OUR DECISION WAS MADE TO BEGIN THIS OVERALL APPROACH TO THE PROBLEM, WE HAD REACHED CONCLUSION THAT THERE WAS A REASONABLE CHANCE FOR FRENCH PARTICIPATION; WE AGREE THAT ABSENCE OF FRANCE WOULD MAKE IDEA LESS EFFECTIVE. AS FOR INDIA, WE AGREE THAT POTENTIAL NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS LIKE INDIA MUST EVENTUALLY BE BROUGHT INTO SCHEME IF IT IS TO HAVE MAXIMUM EFFECTIVENESS, BUT OUR IDEA WAS TO LIMIT INITIAL CONFERENCE TO THOSE NATIONS WHICH ALREADY HAVE SIGNIFICANT CAPACITY FOR NUCLEAR EXPORTS.

D. PURPOSE OF REVIEW CONFERENCE, AS STATED IN TREATY, IS TO REVIEW OPERATIONS OF TREATY AND ASSURE THAT NPT'S PURPOSES ARE BEING MET. SINCE THIS IS ESSENTIALLY MEETING OF NPT PARTIES, THERE IS NO SPECIFIC CONNECTION BETWEEN IT AND SUPPLIERS CONFERENCE. SINCE FRANCE, FOR INSTANCE, HAS CATEGORICALLY STATED ITS OPPOSITION TO NPT, NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE, WHATEVER ITS SUCCESS, IS UNLIKELY TO HAVE ANY EFFECT ON FRANCE. THAT IS WHY THE

SUPPLIERS CONFERENCE MECHANISM, UNCONNECTED WITH NPT, IS NEEDED TO BRING IN NPT NON-PARTIES, ALONG WITH THOSE SUPPLIERS WHO ARE PARTIES, IN COMMON EFFORT.

3. ZURHELLEN EXPRESSED HOPE THAT, WITH ABOVE EXPLANATIONS, IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR GOJ TO GIVE ITS REACTION TO OUR PROPOSALS IN NEAR FUTURE, WITH AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON SUPPLIERS CONFERENCE.

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